

Attilio CITTERIO et al.

Amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (amended) The use of the compounds as claimed in claim 1 for chromatographic separations utilizing silica-based material.

Amend claim 8 as follows:

A<sup>2</sup>  
8. (amended) The use of spheres and of silica material in general, treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 1, for chiral chromatographic separations.

Amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (amended) The use of the compounds as claimed in claim 1 for coating glass and borosilicate surfaces as used in nanotechnologies for electrophoretic separations of any class of molecules.

Amend ~~claim~~ 11 as follows:

11. (amended) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 1 for separations of proteins and peptides, at any value of the pH scale necessary for optimizing such separations, including capillary electrophoresis using hyphenated techniques.

Amend claim 12 as follows:

A<sup>3</sup>  
12. (amended) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 1 for separations of proteins and peptides in both conventional buffers and amphoteric, isoelectric buffers, either acidic or neutral or alkaline.

Amend claim 13 as follows:

13. (amended) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 3 for separations of

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oligonucleotides and DNA fragments, in both conventional buffers and amphoteric, isoelectric buffers, either acidic or neutral or alkaline.

Amend claim 14 as follows:

A<sup>3</sup>  
14. (amended) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 3 for separations of small molecules able to interact with the capillary wall or whose separations might be hampered by the EEO flow of non-conditioned capillaries.

Amend claim 15 as follows:

15. (amended) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 3 for chiral separations.

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Add the following new claim:

A<sup>4</sup>  
--16. (new) The use of capillaries treated with the compounds as claimed in claim 5 for chiral separations.--

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R E M A R K S

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

Respectfully submitted,

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